

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Arbor Day 2011

Whereas, April 29, 2011 marks the one hundred twenty-fourth anniversary of the observance of Arbor Day in Rhode Island, which was set aside to commemorate the growing, protecting, and maintaining of trees; and

Whereas, our countryside is blessed with a plentiful number and variety of trees — beautifying our landscape, adding a touch of nature to our cities and towns, providing a locale where people can find wholesome recreation, and serving as one of the major building blocks in the development of this nation; and

Whereas, our forests and our trees provide us with food to eat, yield paper for the books from which we obtain and share great knowledge, and produce materials from which we build our homes as well as provide us with thousands of other useful products; and

Whereas, our forests are the origin of our clear, clean drinking water, serve to purify our air, and hold intact the precious topsoil of our land; and

Whereas, trees are the mightiest creation of the plant kingdom and we should be conscious every day of the year of the vital need to conserve and use wisely this wonderful, renewable resource; and

Whereas, it is our duty to plant and maintain trees for future generations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island do hereby proclaim April 29, 2011 as ARBOR DAY in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of this day.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this <u>1⁵⁷</u> day of April, 2011

Lincoln D. Chafee Governor

A. Ralph Mollis Secretary of State